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LETTER DATED 3 NOVEMBER 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of a serious incident which occurred 250 metres inside Kuwaiti territory south of boundary marker No. 104. On 2 November 1993, an Iraqi vehicle with four uniformed military personnel on board, three of whom were officers, crossed the boundary at 1344 hours. By force of arms, three men took hostage a number of Kuwaiti officials who were conducting an inspection of construction work along the security line and attempted to force them, at gunpoint, to cross the boundary. A clash ensued. The Iraqi officers remained deaf to the warnings of the United Nations team, which made every effort to free the Kuwaitis. At that moment, one of the Kuwaiti officials, acting in self-defence, opened fire on the aggressors using one of their weapons, wounding three of the Iraqis, who were later transported back into Iraqi territory by the United Nations force.

Kuwait considers this incident to be a deliberate act which is both a serious infringement of the inviolability of an international boundary and a violation of, and an expression of contempt for, the resolutions of the Security Council, in particular resolution 833, by which the Council guaranteed the inviolability of the international boundary between Kuwait and Iraq. This incident also demonstrates the contempt of Iraq for the Security Council's recent warnings to Iraq not to interfere with Kuwait's completion of a trench inside its territory, which is its sovereign right. We therefore believe that the Security Council, which is responsible for follow-up in respect of its resolutions, should take the steps required to put an end to acts of this kind, which represent a serious threat to the security and sovereignty of Kuwait.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Mohammed A. ABULHASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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